(2) Whether the Government has come to any decision regarding the future working of the Potteries, and if so, what it is?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

(1) No definite offers have so far been received.

(2) Not yet; Government are willing to consider the lease of the factory, if reasonable terms are offered.

Deposits in the Bohemian Bank.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

231. (a) Whether the deposits made in the Bohemian Bank were with the sanction or subsequent approval of the Government, and

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state their reasons for not paying Mr. Kuehnel his salary?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

(a) The deposits were made at the instance and, as the Government understood it, on the responsibility of Mr. Kuehnel.

(b) Vide answer to (a).

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

The question is what were the reasons— whether the deposit was made with or without the sanction or with or without the approval of the Government.

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

The deposit in the Bohemian Bank was made at the instance of the Government.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Am I to take it that the Government neither approved of the deposit nor sanctioned the deposit?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

It must have been with the approval of the Government.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Am I to take it that it was without the sanction of the Government that the deposit was made?

RAO SAHIB Mr. T. V. KASTURI RANGA AYYAR.

It does not make much difference.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

This is Government money that is deposited. Without the sanction of the Government, money cannot be drawn from the Treasury.

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PRESIDENT.

The sanction also is implied in it. You want to know whether there was the sanction of the Government for drawing money and depositing it in the Bohemian Bank.

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

Certain materials were ordered from Germany and other parts. Mr. Kuehnel wanted to advance the amount required for it. Instead of that, Government allowed the deposit to be made in the name of Mr. Kuehnel—the amount required for these articles. Somehow or other, these articles were not received. Most of the articles were purchased, and we have received even more than what we have deposited, though a large amount is still due from the Bank.

PRESIDENT.

So there was the sanction of the Government for depositing the amount.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

It is now given out that it is with the sanction of the Government. If so, how will the answer to (b) be correct?

PRESIDENT.

Is that a supplementary question?

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

That is the main question. That could be no answer at all to (b).

PRESIDENT.

All right. Take it to be so.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Sir, we look to you to get proper answers to questions. Otherwise, what is the necessity of putting questions at all, if the Government is not prepared to answer? Am I to take it like that from the Government?

PRESIDENT.

You have only to put supplementary questions. That is all. What is the supplementary question put?

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

The supplementary question that I put is, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for not paying Mr. Kuehnel's salary. They simply tell me that the deposit was made in some bank on the responsibility of Mr. Kuehnel. Subsequently, it is found that it was with the sanction and approval of the Government.

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Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

He was asked to transfer all the amounts outstanding in his name. He did not do it. So his pay was withheld.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

That would be the reason.

The Boring Machine and its operations.

Mr. E. IKKANDA WARIAR.

232. Will the Government be pleased to state

(a) What amount the Government has spent on the Boring machine and its operations?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a report showing the results of its operations?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

(a) The cost of the Boring plant is in all Rs. 16,414-8-0, and the cost of boring operations till the end of Vrischigam 1101 is Rs. 2,131—2—11. Of the latter, Rs. 1,325—9—2 is on account of the pay of the temporary staff recruited from the permanent establishment, and the balance, Rs. 805—9—9, on account of stores and spare parts purchased.

(b) The operation consisted in boring through a stratum of hard gneiss to a depth of about 75 feet from the ruling ground surface of the locality. It is inferred from observations that certain artesian springs have been struck, and efforts are being made to gauge the yield of the well. About 1,000 gallons of water per hour could be had indefinitely from it, and attempts are being made to enhance the yield, if possible. An estimate for Rs. 42,000 being the probable cost of works required for water supply has been prepared, and is undergoing scrutiny. But the work will not be taken in hand until the yield of the well has been definitely determined.

Mr. E. IKKANDA WARIAR.

Will the Government be pleased to state whether they had to incur any expenditure other than and over and above the expenditure mentioned in answer to question (a) in connection with purchase of planks and by way of travelling allowance exclusively for this purpose ?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

I supervised the whole of tl ese operations, and it is my travelling allowance that is debitable to this particular work. It must have been included in this figure.

PRESIDENT.

Ordinary travelling allowance or special allowance ?

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